

NEWS

Depot says thanks to NMCRS for 100 years of service...

Depot Commanding General, Brigadier Gen. Joseph J. McMenamin, and his wife, Celia, hosted a luncheon for the Navy Marine Corps Relief Society Jan. 23 at Quarters One. The luncheon celebrated more than 100 years of faithful service of the Navy Marine Corps Relief Society to sailors and Marines.



Lance Cpl. Marsha N. Garcia

MARINE,

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desire, since I was a small boy, to be a Marine.”

Altman, who later realized the importance of an education, finished high school in 1952 – seven years after his enlistment – and went on to receive his Bachelor of Education degree from Jackson College in Honolulu and a master’s degree in Criminal Justice from the University of South Carolina.

Throughout his Marine Corps career, Altman served as a recruiter, drill instructor, combat Marine, heavyweight boxing champion and All-Marine basketball player. Altman was awarded more than 20 medals and decorations, including a Bronze Star with a combat “V,” while serving in such locations as the South Pacific, Korea and Vietnam. His last duty station before retirement was aboard Parris Island as Assistant Chief of Staff for Supply and Services.

After his retirement, Altman took the leadership skills and discipline he had obtained in the Corps and carried them over to the Beaufort City Police Department, where he served as police chief from 1974 - 1992.

Altman developed the Police Movie Club for children of the Lowcountry to keep them off the streets. The program continues to provide free movies

for children on Saturdays, while teaching them pride and providing safety tips.

Altman also initiated a training program for the officers that “took the department into the 20th century,” he said.

“I would say the biggest thing the chief brought to us was the sense of pride,” said Chief Jeff Dowling, who climbed the ranks under Altman’s leadership and took over as police chief in 2000. “All police departments are like the military – there is a lot of respect for the rank structure. [Altman] instilled that here and it really gave the officers a sense of pride.”

Altman once said the training and lessons he learned while in the Corps helped shape him into the successful person he became.

“If I had a chance to do it all over again, I wouldn’t change a thing,” said Altman in 1997. “I don’t know what it is, but you can never forget the training you receive [at Parris Island] or at home. It’s the good kids coming down that will continue to make the Marine Corps the best branch of service.”

Altman is survived by his wife of 50 years, Nora Stephens Altman of Beaufort; two sisters, Elizabeth Geraldine Green of Huntsville, Texas, and Wanda Ann Bone of Bellaire, Texas; and a brother, James M. Altman, of Port Allen, La.

STAR,

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you train them hard so that when you get into these shooting situations you can bring everybody home.’ That’s the best thing you can do - train them hard. If you work them hard, you are preparing them.”

What is best for Marines in Pugliese’s eyes is the continuation of time-tested methods. “We need to continue to train our Marines to have initiative, aggressiveness and be bold. If we can instill that, that’s 90 percent of the fight right there,” he said.

Pugliese left Iraq with more than a medal. He came out of the experience with an admiration for the job that Marines like himself do.

“What was most rewarding was seeing the Marines be able to conduct what we call a three block war,” he said. “We

had the Marines who would be involved in some action and the next block over, they are doing work to rebuild schools.”

“The next block over, they are handing out humanitarian aid, and then, the next block over, they are conducting a patrol,” he said.

“These Marines were able to shift back and forth between hostilities and humanitarian work, which showed an incredible amount of flexibility and agility,” added Pugliese.

Although Pugliese gives credit to the Marines of the 15th MEU, he felt a need to give attention to those Marines who are now going to Iraq in support of OIF II.

“The folks who really need our support right now are those Marines who are heading out for a second time to Iraq,” he said. “I have no doubt that they are going to do absolutely fantastic work.”

Coach/PMI of the Week



Cpl. Jennifer Brofer

Primary Marksmanship Instructor Sgt. Chad Blue (above) helped qualify 95.9 percent of the recruits from Platoon 1020, Charlie Co., 1st RTBn., making him the PMI of the Week. The platoon’s average shooting score was 204.

Starlite Range Coach Cpl. Kevin Doughtie helped 12 recruits from Platoon 1020, Charlie Co., 1st RTBn., to rifle range qualification, earning him the title Coach of the Week. Doughtie coached three experts, three sharpshooters and six marksmen.